

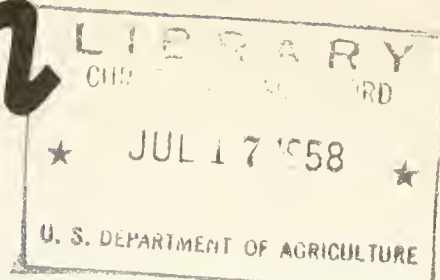
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# Foreign



# CROPS AND MARKETS

FOR RELEASE MONDAY, JULY 14, 1958

VOLUME 77

CONTENTS

NUMBER 2

	PAGE
<b>COTTON</b>	
India's 1957-58 Cotton Crop Second Largest in Decade .....	6
Greece Has Record Cotton Crop in 1957-58 .....	7
Dutch Importing Less Cotton This Season .....	8
<b>DAIRY AND POULTRY PRODUCTS</b>	
Denmark Bans Nonfat Dry Milk Imports .....	12
U. K. Limits Butter Imports From Sweden, Ireland, and Finland .....	12
U. K. To Issue Annual Import Licenses for Cheese From North America .....	12
<b>FATS, OILSEEDS, AND OILS</b>	
U. S. Exports of Edible Oils Up Sharply in May .....	8
Ceylon's Exports of Copra, Coconut Oil in First Quarter 1958 Down 10 Percent .....	10
European Margarine Association Establishes Policy .....	12
Argentina Raises Oilseed Prices to Producers .....	20
U. S. S. R. Margarine Production More Than Double That of 1951 .....	20
India Removes Export Duty on Peanut and Castor Oils .....	22
Mexico's Vegetable Oil Output Down in 1958 .....	22
<b>FOREIGN TRADE DEVELOPMENTS</b>	
Iceland Modifies Its Exchange Rate System .....	5
<b>FRUITS, VEGETABLES, AND NUTS</b>	
Brazil Nut Exports Decline in First Quarter .....	13
1957 South African Dried Fruit Pack Down One-third; Export Volume Halved .....	14
<b>GRAINS, GRAIN PRODUCTS, SEEDS, AND FEEDS</b>	
Argentina Raises Minimum Producer Prices for Grains .....	13
Japan's Grain Crop Reduced .....	15
Iraq Buys Australian Wheat .....	16
Turkey's Wheat Prospects Below 1957 .....	16
Argentine Grain Shipments Only Slightly Below Last Year's .....	16
Canadian Grain Area Continues Dry .....	18
Thailand Exports Less Rice .....	18

(Continued on following page)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL SERVICE  
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

## CONTENTS (continued)

	Page
LIVESTOCK AND MEAT PRODUCTS	
Bolivia Removes Export Ban on Vicuna Hair.....	18
U. K. Raises Import Duties on Salted and Pickled Pork.....	22
U. S. S. R. Encourages Meat Production.....	23
East German Cattle Numbers Still Declining.....	23
SUGAR AND TROPICAL PRODUCTS	
Argentina Expected to Import Sugar Because of Reduced Production.....	5
Brazil Produces More Sugar in 1957-58.....	10
TOBACCO	
Italian Exports of Unmanufactured Tobacco Down Slightly.....	3
Canadian Tobacco Exports Down.....	4
Greek Government Expands Tobacco Stabilization Program.....	4
Yugoslav-Spanish Trade Agreement Includes Tobacco.....	4
Cuba Builds Tobacco Redrying Plant.....	4

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FOREIGN CROPS AND MARKETS

Published weekly to assist the foreign marketing of U. S. farm products by keeping the Nation's agricultural interests informed of current crop and livestock developments abroad, foreign trends in production, prices, supplies and consumption of farm products, and other factors affecting world agricultural trade. Circulation is free to persons in the United States.

Foreign Crops and Markets is distributed only upon a request basis. If you find you have no need for this publication, please tear off the addressograph imprint with your name and address, pencil "drop" upon it, and send it to the Foreign Agricultural Service, Room 5918, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C.

ITALIAN EXPORTS OF UNMANUFACTURED  
TOBACCO DOWN SLIGHTLY

Italian exports of unmanufactured tobacco declined in 1957 to 24.3 million pounds from 26.0 million in 1956. Exports to other European Common Market countries rose from 9.6 million pounds in 1956 to 10.5 million in 1957. Other significant increases were in shipments to the United States, Sweden, Egypt, and Portugal. Portugal, which had taken little or no Italian leaf previously, took 2.3 million pounds in 1957. However, the U.S.S.R., which took 6.7 million pounds in 1956, took none in 1957.

Nearly 43 percent of leaf exports during 1957 consisted of Burley at an average price equivalent to 38.0 U.S. cents per pound. West Germany was the primary customer for Burley, with smaller quantities going to Portugal and the Netherlands. Shipments of flue-cured accounted for 12.5 percent of 1957 exports at an average price equal to 52.3 U.S. cents per pound. The United Kingdom, the Netherlands, and West Germany were the major purchasers of flue-cured in 1957.

TOBACCO, LEAF: Italy, exports by country of destination, 1955-57

Country of destination	1955	1956	1957
	1,000 <u>pounds</u>	1,000 <u>pounds</u>	1,000 <u>pounds</u>
France <u>1/</u> .....	1,972	2,783	1,234
Germany, West <u>1/</u> .....	5,160	3,121	5,980
Netherlands <u>1/</u> .....	3,118	3,726	3,289
Common Market total <u>2/</u> .....	10,250	9,630	10,503
Switzerland.....	2,411	2,626	1,672
U.S.S.R. ....	2,876	6,669	3/
United States.....	1,760	2,467	3,639
Sweden.....	3/	3/	661
Egypt.....	3/	3/	659
Portugal.....	3/	3/	2,293
Other.....	7,867	4,642	4,877
Grand total.....	25,164	26,034	24,304

Source: Statistica Mensile Del Commercio Con L'Estro

1/ Members with Italy in the European Common Market. 2/ No Italian leaf has been exported directly to Belgium and Luxembourg since 1954. 3/ If any, included in other.



## CANADIAN TOBACCO EXPORTS DOWN

Canadian exports of unmanufactured tobacco for January-March 1958 totaled 9.8 million pounds--down 44 percent from the first quarter of 1957.

The largest decreases were in shipments to the United Kingdom and Australia. The former took only 7.9 million pounds of Canadian leaf in the first quarter of 1958, compared with 14.3 million a year earlier; the latter purchased only 5,000 pounds, compared with 1.5 million during January-March 1957. Flue-cured accounted for 92 percent of total exports this year, and 99 percent in January-March 1957, according to Tobacco Intelligence (London, June 1958).

GREEK GOVERNMENT EXPANDS TOBACCO  
STABILIZATION PROGRAM

The Greek Government has announced additional measures to stabilize movement of the large tobacco crop. The steps outlined in a recent policy statement have been supplemented by a decision to have government experts grade the tobacco and fix prices. The government also will finance up to 95 percent of wholesalers' purchases for government account.

SPANISH-YUGOSLAV TRADE AGREEMENT  
INCLUDES TOBACCO

The first postwar Spanish-Yugoslav trade and payments agreement was signed in Paris on January 14, 1958. It is valid from February 1, 1958, to January 31, 1959, and provides for a \$5-million exchange of goods in each direction, including unspecified amounts of Yugoslav tobacco.

CUBA BUILDS TOBACCO  
REDRYING PLANT

The Cuban Agricultural Products Processing Company recently completed a redrying plant for Burley tobacco. It is near El Gabriel in the heart of the Partido Zone where there is ample labor familiar with tobacco handling. The plant is designed for efficient operation and has modern machinery which can process 6,000 to 10,000 pounds of leaf per hour.

In 1957, Cuba grew about 1 million pounds of Burley, of which 600,000 pounds went to the United States for redrying and reexport to the Netherlands and Cuba. The 1958 Burley crop is estimated at 4 million pounds, which can now be redried domestically. Burley was introduced into areas of Cuba that had been turning out poor-quality Cuban cigar types. The Burley is considered more suitable for these areas and will provide some light leaf for domestic cigarette manufacture. The bulk of this crop, however, is scheduled for export, primarily to the Netherlands, West Germany, Belgium, Finland, and Portugal.

# ARGENTINA EXPECTED TO IMPORT SUGAR BECAUSE OF REDUCED PRODUCTION

Argentina expects to harvest less cane and produce less sugar in the 1958-59 harvesting season than in 1957-58, and will probably import sugar this year.

Smaller planted acreage and a late start in harvesting account for the lower forecast. Planted acreage is now placed at 711,648 acres, a 2-percent drop from 726,477 acres last season. The harvest did not begin until June because of labor trouble.

# ICELAND MODIFIES ITS EXCHANGE RATE SYSTEM

Effective May 29, 1958, the Government of Iceland modified its exchange rate system, which had been in effect for roughly a year and a half. Under the old system, there was one export rate of 16.26 Icelandic kronur per U.S. dollar and 3 import rates; the rate which applied to most imports was 18.93 kronur per U.S. dollar.

The new system--considerably more complicated than the old one--consists of 7 export rates and 4 import rates. These effective rates result from the addition to the official rate of various exchange taxes on export payments and premiums on exchange receipts. These new taxes and premiums are equal in effect to a devaluation of approximately 35 percent. The rates which apply to agricultural and related commodities are:

Commodities included	Exchange rates
	Kronur per U.S. dol.
EXPORTS	
Herring products from summer season catch.....	24.39
Herring products from fall season catch.....	27.64
Other fish products and agricultural products; also certain other products.....	29.27
IMPORTS	
Sales of foreign exchange related to operations of U.S. Air Force Base at Keflavik.....	16.32
Basic consumer goods (about 9 percent of imports); also students' and medical expenses.....	21.22
All other imports.....	25.30

## INDIA'S 1957-58 COTTON CROP SECOND LARGEST IN DECADE

India's 1957-58 cotton crop is now estimated at 4,250,000 bales (500 pounds gross), the second largest crop since partition from Pakistan in 1947. This year's crop is 5 percent above the 4,060,000 bales produced in 1956-57, and is only about 2 percent below the record crop in 1954-55 of 4,322,000 bales.

Cotton acreage this season was the largest since partition, amounting to 21,000,000 acres--up 6 percent from 19,843,000 acres in 1956-57. Most of the increase was in Punjab and Uttar Pradesh; acreage declined in Bombay, Madhya Pradesh, and Mysore because of unfavorable weather at planting time.

As of May 24, 1958, the Government of India had issued licenses for imports of about 281,000 bales of cotton this season. Licenses were issued for 164,000 bales of sterling-area cotton, and about 117,000 bales of U. S. cotton. During the first 4 months (August-November) of 1957-58, 96,000 bales were imported, compared with 127,000 bales in the same months of 1956-57.

Quantities imported from principal sources in August-November 1957, with comparable 1956 figures in parentheses, were: Egypt 30,000 bales (6,000); Sudan 23,000 (23,000); United States 18,000 (41,000); Kenya 14,000 (37,000); Tanganyika 6,000 (12,000); and Uganda 4,000 (0).

A total of 204,000 bales had been released for export up to May 24, 1958, of which 122,000 bales were Bengal Desi and 82,000 bales were other varieties stapling 3/4-inch or below. August-November exports were 15,000 bales, compared with 33,000 bales in the comparable period a year earlier. Japan continues to be the largest importer of Indian cotton.

Indian cotton mills used 2,788,000 bales during August-March 1957-58. This was 2 percent below the 2,843,000 bales used in the same months a year earlier. Mill consumption has declined since December 1957 because of the large stocks of cloth held by the mills. Output of cotton cloth in recent months has reportedly been running about 10 percent behind last year. Cotton consumption in homes, and other nonmill uses, is estimated at 220,000 bales annually.

Cotton stocks on March 31, 1958, were reported at 1,180,000 bales, an increase of about 2 percent from stocks of 1,161,000 bales a year earlier.

Cotton prices generally have fluctuated within a moderate range since January 1958, with a prominent demand for good qualities. The export tax on Bengal Desi was reduced on March 14, 1958, from 5.38 cents per pound to 2.69 cents per pound. The export tax is now the same for all exportable varieties.



Spot quotations at Bombay on June 19, 1958, excluding export taxes, were: Broach Vijay, Fine, 13/16-inch, 24.21 cents per pound; Jarilla, Fine, 25/32-inch, 18.75 cents; and Bengal Desi, Fine, 15.85 cents. Comparable prices on January 3, 1958, were: Broach Vijay, Fine, 23.04 cents per pound; Jarilla, Fine, 19.29 cents; and Bengal Desi, Fine, 15.81 cents per pound.

#### GREECE HAS RECORD COTTON CROP IN 1957-58

Cotton production in Greece in 1957-58 rose to a record 285,000 bales (500 pounds gross). This is 22 percent above the 234,000 bales produced in 1956-57, and 2 percent above the 1955-56 crop of 279,000 bales. The increase reflects higher yields per acre, attributed to more extensive irrigation.

The 387,000 acres planted to cotton in 1957-58 was 2 percent less than the 395,000 acres last season, and 6 percent below the 410,000 acres planted in 1955-56. Total cotton acreage in 1958-59 is expected to be slightly larger than in 1957-58.

Cotton exports from Greece during August-April 1957-58 were 97,000 bales, or 33 percent below exports of 145,000 bales in the same months of 1956-57. A sharp decline in exports to France caused the drop, as most other countries importing Greek cotton took larger quantities in this period.

Exports by country of destination are available through March only. Quantities exported to principal destinations during August-March 1957-58, with comparable 1956-57 figures in parentheses, were: France 27,000 (99,000); Yugoslavia 19,000 (15,000); Japan 8,000 (2,000); Bulgaria 6,000 (4,000); Israel 4,000 (0); Spain 4,000 (0); Hungary 3,000 (2,000); and the United Kingdom 3,000 (0).

Cotton consumption amounted to 85,000 bales during August-March 1957-58, up 9 percent from the 78,000 bales used in the comparable 1956-57 period. About 130,000 bales are expected to be used during the entire 1957-58 season, compared with 120,000 bales last season.

Greece normally produces all the short and medium staple cotton it needs, and imports small quantities of extra-long staple cotton, mostly from Egypt. However, because of the smaller crop and heavy exports last year, moderate amounts of upland cotton have been imported from the United States and Syria this season. Total 1957-58 imports are expected to be about 21,000 bales, compared with 19,000 bales last season, and only 2,000 bales in 1955-56.

Cotton stocks were estimated at 149,000 bales on March 31, 1958, more than 3 times the 48,000 bales held at that time last year.

#### DUTCH IMPORTING LESS COTTON THIS SEASON

The Netherlands imported 226,000 bales (500 pounds gross) of cotton during August-March 1957-58. This was a decline of 14 percent from exports of 264,000 bales in the same months of last season.

There was a notable shift from U. S. cotton in the period under review. Imports from the United States were less than half the August-March 1956-57 imports. Shipments from the Belgian Congo and Egypt also declined. On the other hand, imports from Mexico increased more than 50 percent from a year earlier, and those from Nicaragua, El Salvador, Uganda, Burma, and Guatemala were also larger.

Quantities imported from principal sources during August-March 1957-58, with comparable 1956-57 figures in parentheses, were: Mexico 102,000 bales (67,000); United States 61,000 (131,000); Belgian Congo 21,000 (24,000); Nicaragua 14,000 (4,000); Peru 11,000 (11,000); El Salvador 6,000 (758); Egypt 3,000 (9,000); Uganda 1,000 (5); Burma 1,000 (147); and Guatemala 1,000 (0).

Cotton consumption amounted to approximately 144,000 bales during the first 5 months (August-December) of the 1957-58 season, against 139,000 bales in the comparable 1956-57 period. Domestic sales of cotton fabrics were down slightly from a year earlier, but this decline was offset by increased export sales, especially to Africa. The Dutch textile industry now looks to Africa as a new outlet for dyed and printed piece goods normally sent to Indonesia.

Cotton stocks on December 31, 1957, were reported at 79,000 bales, up 34 percent from stocks of 59,000 bales a year earlier. U. S. cotton constituted 19,000 bales, or 24 percent, of the December 31 stocks, compared with 18,000 bales, or 31 percent, of total stocks a year earlier.

#### U. S. EXPORTS OF EDIBLE OILS UP SHARPLY IN MAY

U. S. exports of cottonseed and soybean oils in May were 3 times those of April, and of May 1957 according to preliminary data. The sharp increase is largely the result of the record volume of soybean oil purchased by Spain in mid-April under Public Law 480. October-May shipments of 669.3 million pounds were two-thirds of the volume exported in the comparable period last marketing year.

May exports of cottonseed oil alone were down one-third from April but were 3 times the quantity shipped in May 1957. October-May shipments were nearly three-fourths the quantity shipped in the first 8 months of 1956-57.

U.S. soybean oil exports in May were nearly 6 times those of April and 3 times May 1957 shipments. October-May exports were two-thirds those a year earlier.

May exports of oilcake and meal were 15 percent above April shipments. October-May exports were less than 60 percent those of last marketing year.

Soybeans inspected for export from October 1, 1957, through May 30, 1958, totaled 65.9 million bushels, compared with 66.1 million bushels in the comparable period of 1956-57. Inspections through June 27 were 70.3 million bushels against 69.5 million bushels from October 1, 1956, through June 28, 1958.

COTTONSEED OIL, SOYBEAN OIL, OILCAKES, AND MEALS: U. S. preliminary estimates of exports in May 1958 and October-May 1957-58, and actual exports in May 1957 and October-May 1956-57

Commodity	May		October-May	
	1957	1958 : Preliminary	1956-57	1957-58 : Preliminary
	- - Million pounds - -		- - Million pounds - -	
Cottonseed oil, refined.....	.3	5.5	49.0	78.1
Cottonseed oil, refined and further processed.....	.5	3.1	14.8	19.6
Cottonseed oil, crude.....	2.7	1.5	253.4	124.0
Total cottonseed oil.....	3.5	10.1	317.2	221.7
Soybean oil, refined.....	2.5	17.0	40.2	123.2
Soybean oil, refined and further processed.....	2.1	139.2	303.3	205.4
Soybean oil, crude.....	55.7	36.6	319.4	119.0
Total soybean oil.....	60.3	192.8	662.9	447.6
Total cottonseed and soybean oil.....	63.8	202.9	980.1	669.3
	1,000 short tons		1,000 short tons	
Cottonseed cake and meal.....	1/	.1	26.5	6.3
Linseed cake and meal.....	.1	---	37.0	5.9
Soybean cake and meal.....	20.6	19.4	332.8	215.0
Total cake and meal.....	20.7	19.5	396.3	227.2

1/ Less than 50 short tons.

Compiled from official records of the Bureau of the Census.



# BRAZIL PRODUCES MORE SUGAR IN 1957-58

Brazil's sugar output for the crop year ending May 31, 1958, is officially estimated at 3,106,000 short tons, raw value, compared with 2,623,000 short tons in the 1956-57 crop year. Recently released supply and distribution figures for 1957-58 are:

Item	Bags of 60 kilos (132 lb. ea.)	1,000 short tons, raw value
Stocks, June 1, 1957 .....	6,295,621	441
Production.....	44,376,962	3,106
Exports.....	11,210,181	785
Consumption.....	<u>1/</u> 33,518,418	<u>1/</u> 2,346
Stocks, May 31, 1958.....	6,051,131	424

1/ Includes 107,147 sacks (7,500 short tons, raw value) produced from June through August 1957 from the 1956-57 crop.

An estimated 12,475 sacks of 60 kilos (873 short tons, raw value) are expected to be produced after May 31 from the 1957-58 crop. This amount is not included in the above table.

## CEYLON'S EXPORTS OF COPRA; COCONUT OIL IN FIRST QUARTER 1958 DOWN 10 PERCENT

Ceylon's exports of copra and coconut oil in the first quarter of the year totaled 14,580 long tons, oil basis, a decline of 10 percent from the first 3 months of 1957.

Copra exports in January-March were down one-third from the first quarter of 1957. Shipments to India, the chief market, were off nearly 40 percent because of Indian restrictions on copra imports.

Coconut oil exports in the first 3 months of this year were 2 percent below those of the comparable period of 1957. While sales to Canada were nearly 4 times the volume shipped in January-March 1957, those to Europe were down one-third.

Ceylon exported no fresh coconuts in the first quarter of 1958. In December 1957, shipments of coconuts were placed under government control (see Foreign Crops and Markets, February 24, 1958).

Exports of desiccated coconut in the first 3 months of this year were 10,857 long tons, up 5 percent from the comparable period of 1957.



COPRA AND COCONUT OIL: Ceylon, exports by country of destination,  
average 1935-39, annual 1957 and  
January-March 1957 and 1958

Continent and country of destination	COPRA				COCONUT OIL			
	Average	1957 1/	January - March		Average	1957 1/	January - March	
	1935-39		1957 1/	1958 1/	1935-39		1957 1/	1958 1/
	Long tons	Long tons	Long tons	Long tons	Long tons	Long tons	Long tons	Long tons
North America:								
Canada .....	---	---	---	---	8,523	11,761	597	2,220
Other .....	1	---	---	---	2,119	1,199	390	337
Total .....	1	---	---	---	10,642	12,960	987	2,557
South America:	---	---	---	---	1,433	822	304	52
Europe:								
Denmark .....	1,605	---	---	---	35	---	---	---
France .....	354	---	---	---	347	---	---	---
Germany, West .....	2/ 1,482	---	---	---	2/ 1,200	10	---	---
Greece .....	1,526	---	---	---	120	---	---	---
Italy .....	6,451	---	---	---	1,724	6,554	1,926	1,079
Netherlands .....	1,929	---	---	---	1,976	2,984	1,820	80
Sweden .....	---	---	---	---	3,573	---	---	---
Switzerland .....	---	---	---	---	84	224	75	70
United Kingdom .....	420	---	---	---	14,160	9,680	2,460	1,428
Other .....	2,644	---	---	1	3,938	3/ 1,068	---	4/ 1,554
Total .....	16,501	---	---	1	27,157	20,520	6,281	4,211
Africa:								
Egypt .....	425	---	---	---	2,433	876	300	786
Union of South Africa...	---	---	---	---	2,597	203	82	17
Other .....	6	---	---	---	1,354	1,578	96	546
Total .....	431	---	---	---	6,384	2,657	478	1,349
Asia:								
Cyprus .....	---	---	---	---	146	12	---	---
India .....	5/42,549	33,888	5,567	3,478	5/10,710	7,641	2,315	1,703
Iran .....	---	302	30	41	6	5,122	877	1,145
Iraq .....	20	160	---	74	315	1,091	90	50
Israel .....	---	---	---	---	15	---	---	---
Pakistan .....	5/	207	48	54	5/	2,821	1,090	1,158
Syria .....	60	---	---	---	164	---	---	---
Other .....	365	210	45	11	1,885	427	121	50
Total .....	42,994	34,767	5,690	3,658	13,241	17,114	4,493	4,106
Oceania.....	---	---	---	---	154	---	---	---
Grand total .....	59,927	34,767	5,690	3,659	6/59,013	54,073	12,543	12,275

1/ Preliminary.

2/ Total Germany.

3/ 1,018 tons to Poland and 50 tons to Finland.

4/ 1,504 tons to Poland and 50 tons to Finland.

5/ Pakistan included with India.

6/ Includes 2 tons to ships' stores.

Compiled from official sources.

#### DENMARK BANS NONFAT DRY MILK IMPORTS

An embargo on imports of nonfat dry milk into Denmark went into effect on June 23, 1958. Danish authorities fear the transmission of bovine tuberculosis and brucellosis to their livestock, although no cases have been traced to imported nonfat dry milk.

Denmark imported nearly 32 million pounds of nonfat dry milk in 1957, primarily from the United States, the United Kingdom, the Netherlands and New Zealand.

#### U. K. LIMITS BUTTER IMPORTS FROM SWEDEN, IRELAND, AND FINLAND

Sweden, Ireland, and Finland have agreed to limit butter exports to the United Kingdom, following a request by New Zealand that Britain apply countervailing duties to offset purported dumping of butter on the London market (see Foreign Crops and Markets, June 2, 1958).

Annual quotas have been set at 18 million pounds for Sweden, 31 million pounds for Ireland, and 17 million pounds for Finland. Sweden's exports to the United Kingdom will thus be reduced about 40 percent from recent levels; Finland's about 60 percent; and Ireland's about 15 percent.

#### U. K. TO ISSUE ANNUAL IMPORT LICENSES FOR CHEESE FROM NORTH AMERICA

The United Kingdom has announced that for the year ending June 30, 1959, it will again grant import licenses for up to \$4.2 million worth of natural cheese from North America. Last year, due to the availability of low-priced cheese from other areas the allocation was not fully used, and no cheese was purchased from the United States. In previous years, the bulk of the imports were from Canada, and the remainder from the United States.

#### EUROPEAN MARGARINE ASSOCIATION ESTABLISHES POLICY

The International Federation of Margarine Association, a group of European margarine associations established last April (see Foreign Crops and Markets, May 5, 1958), has announced the following objectives:

(1) The study and solution of problems arising in the margarine industry; (2) the exchange of information and pooling of research efforts and results; and (3) the stimulation of international relations with government and international organizations.

The secretary of the organization states that the federation will not fix prices, set standards, or engage in restrictive trade practices.

# ARGENTINA RAISES MINIMUM PRODUCER PRICES FOR GRAINS

Australia's the 1958-59 minimum producer prices for all grains except wheat have been revised upward. Wheat is unchanged at \$1.97 per bushel.

The revised prices, converted to dollars at the official exchange rate, are: oats, yellow, grade #2, \$0.56; oats, white, grade #2, \$0.58; barley, malting, grade #2, \$0.97; barley, forage, grade #2, \$0.90; rye, grade #2, \$0.99; corn, \$1.69; and millet and sorghum, \$0.92. (See Foreign Crops and Markets, May 19, 1958 for original 1958-59 prices.)

# BRAZIL NUT EXPORTS DECLINE IN FIRST QUARTER

Brazil nut exports during January-March 1958 consisted of 498 short tons of in-shell nuts and 590 tons shelled. Compared with the first quarter of 1957, in-shell exports were down about 55 percent, but shelled shipments were larger by about 24 percent.

The 1958 Brazil nut crop is unofficially forecast at 37,000 short tons, in-shell, or about 5,000 tons less than the harvest of 42,000 tons last year. On June 10, the exchange rate for Brazil nuts was increased from 67 to 92 cruzeiros to the U. S. dollar. The more favorable rate is expected to stimulate lagging sales.

**BRAZIL NUTS:** Brazilian exports by country of destination, quantity and value, January-March 1957 and 1958

Country of destination	January-March 1957		January-March 1958	
	Short tons	Dollars	Short tons	Dollars
Unshelled:				
Argentina.....	0	0	135	46,224
United Kingdom.....	302	75,455	224	53,855
United States.....	336	66,270	0	0
Germany, West.....	471	100,903	139	25,149
Total.....	1,109	242,628	498	125,228
Shelled:				
Canada.....	6	3,457	12	8,575
U. of So. Africa.....	5	6,649	0	0
United Kingdom.....	257	211,324	179	136,017
United States.....	197	155,444	388	268,671
Germany, West.....	10	8,362	11	8,936
Total.....	475	385,236	590	422,199



1957 SOUTH AFRICAN DRIED FRUIT PACK  
DOWN ONE-THIRD; EXPORT VOLUME HALVED

Production of dried fruits in South Africa during 1957, estimated at 10,211 short tons, was the smallest in recent years. The 1951-55 average volume was 15,570 tons.

Dried vine-fruit tonnage was down sharply in 1957, with the raisin pack only 45 percent as large as the average volume for 1951-55. Dried fruit exports also settled to low levels, falling sharply from 6,495 tons in 1956 to 3,014 tons in 1957.

FRUIT, DRIED: Union of South Africa, production by kind,  
average 1951-55, annual 1954-57

Kind of fruit	Average :1951-55 :	1954	1955	1956	1957
	Short : tons	Short : tons	Short : tons	Short : tons	Short : tons
Raisins.....	4,926	5,960	4,798	2,875	2,243
Currants.....	1,000	1,105	1,036	1,098	950
Sultanas.....	1,113	1,129	1,190	1,002	1,381
Bleached sultanas.....	722	791	570	420	506
Thomp. S. raisins.....	2,074	2,246	2,196	1,230	1,488
Stalk raisins.....	408	432	100	167	166
Muscatels.....	232	182	68	38	19
Total vine fruits.....	10,475	11,845	9,958	6,830	6,753
Apricots.....	527	554	900	754	574
Apples.....	140	214	138	164	123
Peaches.....	1,414	1,454	1,925	1,038	684
Pears.....	221	130	262	306	190
Prunes.....	2,349	2,325	3,298	3,451	1,647
Plums.....	59	60	60	36	16
Nectarines.....	50	49	52	40	20
Figs.....	200	218	137	90	63
Almonds.....	40	47	40	56	40
Walnuts.....	66	72	70	40	70
Mebos (salted, dried apricots):	17	28	18	22	30
Other.....	12	10	4	3	1
Total tree fruits.....	5,095	5,161	6,904	6,000	3,458
Total all fruits.....	15,570	17,006	16,862	12,830	10,211

Raisin export prices in 1957 averaged \$11.90 per 100 pounds for 3-diamond and \$13.30 for 4-diamond grades. Seeded raisin prices averaged about \$3.50 more for the same grades. Thompson seedless raisins and sultanas yielded average returns of \$16.80 per 100 pounds for the 4-diamond grade, c.i.f. London, and \$18.90 per 100 pounds for the 5-diamond grade in New Zealand.



The United Kingdom continued to be the principal export market for South African dried fruits, taking 2,145 short tons of the 3,014 tons exported.

FRUIT, DRIED: Union of South Africa, exports by kind, 1953-57

Kind of fruit	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957
	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons
Currants.....	--	--	223	156	--
Raisins.....	3,039	798	1,998	75	389
Seeded raisins.....	2	40	390	1,200	406
Stalk raisins.....	67	9	--	--	6
Sultanas.....	625	361	272	195	216
Thomp. S. raisin .....	1,546	1,980	531	339	789
Apricots.....	302	371	384	547	387
Apples.....	7	81	3	7	13
Peaches.....	778	606	362	776	248
Pears.....	28	8	15	16	--
Prunes.....	314	656	1,242	1,427	82
Mixed fruit.....	231	461	424	1,747	478
Sugared fruit.....	43	1	354	10	--
Total.....	6,982	5,372	6,198	6,495	3,014

JAPAN'S GRAIN  
CROP REDUCED

Japan's 1958 crop of wheat and barley is considerably smaller than the 1957 harvest, according to preliminary forecasts. The reduction is attributed to smaller acreage and reduced yields.

Farmers this year diverted some land from wheat and barley to vegetables and feed crops, since vegetables are becoming more profitable than grains and the promotion of dairy farming is requiring increased supplies of feed.

The larger part of the crop reduction, however, is due to low yields. The 1958 wheat crop, now estimated at 42.5 million bushels, indicates yields averaging 13 percent less than in 1957. Much-below-normal temperatures in late March and, to a lesser degree, drought are responsible.

Production of barley and naked barley, together, amounts to 82.5 million bushels, 8 percent less than the 1957 crop. The reduction in these crops will step up import requirements, especially if the rice crop is reduced materially.

## IRAQ BUYS AUSTRALIAN WHEAT

The Supply Department of Iraq's Ministry of Finance recently announced the purchase of 10,000 tons of Australian wheat for delivery in September.

Domestic prices immediately dropped 10 to 15 percent. They had been rising as crop estimates declined, and stocks on hand were being held for higher prices. The stated purpose of the imports is to drive prices down toward world levels.

TURKEY'S WHEAT PROSPECTS  
BELOW 1957

Turkey's wheat harvest this year will be slightly less than the large 1957 crop, according to preliminary forecasts of U.S. agricultural technicians. Earlier prospects for a bumper crop have been reduced by hot, dry mid-May weather in the Central Plateau and rust in the Thrace area.

A crop of about 235 million bushels is now expected, compared with some 250 million last year. Comparatively large stocks of wheat still on hand from the 1957 crop bring prospective supplies for 1958-59 somewhat above 1957-58 supplies.

ARGENTINE GRAIN SHIPMENTS ONLY  
SLIGHTLY BELOW LAST YEAR'S

Argentine bread and coarse grains exported during July-May 1957-58 amounted to 4,065,000 metric tons, compared with 4,429,000 during the first 11 months of 1956-57. This represents an overall reduction of 8 percent. Substantially increased exports of rye and oats failed to offset declining exports of wheat, corn, and barley.

Wheat exports during the first 6 months of the fiscal year (July-December 1957) were slightly above those a year earlier. However, exports of January-May 1958 were about 40 percent lower than last year due to last season's poor harvest because of dry weather. Exports during June were expected to be down correspondingly.

On the other hand, corn exports in July-December 1957 were substantially lower than a year earlier, while exports during January-May were well above those during the first 5 months in 1957. This increase was the result of a bumper crop of corn early this year. Corn exports during July-June 1957-58 are now expected to equal or go above the 1,092,000-metric-ton exports in fiscal 1956-57.

Exports of barley in the first 11 months (July-May) of the fiscal year were below those of a year earlier, largely because part of the barley crop was pastured and not harvested.



## GRAIN: Argentine exports, July-May 1956-57 and July-May 1957-58

Country of destination	Wheat	Rye	Corn	Oats	Barley	Total
Metric tons						
July-May 1956-57:						
United States .....	—	—	—	6,067	—	6,067
Peru .....	134,092	—	—	—	—	134,092
Chile .....	98,560	—	—	—	—	98,560
Brazil .....	910,265	—	—	5,236	—	915,501
Paraguay .....	22,988	—	—	—	—	22,988
Uruguay .....	—	—	800	—	5,657	6,457
Sweden .....	—	8,151	—	—	—	8,151
Norway .....	22,607	11,900	—	—	—	34,507
Denmark .....	33,140	14,035	3,813	17,433	200	68,621
United Kingdom ...	229,665	—	134,822	7,005	20,124	391,616
Netherlands .....	157,747	40,546	199,802	61,005	135,629	594,729
Belgium-Luxembourg:	59,066	22,886	150,972	18,978	40,079	291,981
France .....	142,462	—	131,886	14	500	274,862
West Germany .....	179,230	37,771	160,177	79,979	299,893	757,050
Austria .....	11,550	—	5,500	388	—	17,438
Czechoslovakia ...	—	—	—	—	2,000	2,000
Switzerland .....	21,538	4,516	19,909	2,275	3,545	51,783
Finland .....	4,400	27,250	10,162	—	—	41,812
Italy .....	337,579	43,789	153,491	49,161	37,043	621,063
Yugoslavia .....	450	—	—	—	378	828
Greece .....	—	—	—	4,568	—	4,568
Japan .....	—	—	58,727	—	—	58,727
North Africa .....	4,572	—	—	—	—	4,572
South Africa .....	21,516	—	—	—	—	21,516
Total .....	2,391,427	210,844	1,030,061	252,109	545,048	4,429,489
July-May 1957-58:						
United States .....	—	—	1,570	—	—	1,570
Peru .....	77,050	—	6,000	—	—	83,050
Bolivia .....	3,000	—	—	—	—	3,000
Chile .....	194,494	—	75	—	—	194,569
Brazil .....	629,728	—	—	7,471	1,615	638,814
Paraguay .....	54,890	—	—	—	—	54,890
Sweden .....	850	10,750	100	17,971	—	29,671
Norway .....	3,000	7,825	—	—	—	10,825
Denmark .....	16,572	5,000	4,825	49,906	—	76,303
United Kingdom ...	262,125	953	24,229	40,494	10,022	337,823
Netherlands .....	98,129	70,543	208,924	119,277	77,769	574,642
Belgium-Luxembourg:	63,917	16,241	218,948	37,110	22,401	358,617
France .....	12,300	—	4,585	510	1,490	18,885
Germany, West .....	349,264	69,246	94,557	117,115	286,904	917,086
Austria .....	550	2,000	3,735	450	930	7,665
Czechoslovakia ...	—	—	—	8,754	2,650	11,404
Switzerland .....	13,500	2,310	15,105	38,413	2,596	71,924
Finland .....	—	21,515	—	800	—	22,315
Spain .....	4,800	—	—	—	—	4,800
Italy .....	90,843	62,209	273,856	80,111	52,763	559,782
Yugoslavia .....	1,000	—	—	2,990	11,240	15,230
Japan .....	—	—	34,150	—	—	34,150
North Africa .....	9,385	—	2,000	—	—	11,385
South Africa .....	16,660	—	—	8,686	1,385	26,731
Total .....	1,902,057	268,592	892,659	530,058	471,765	4,065,131

#### CANADIAN GRAIN AREA CONTINUES DRY

Rain is still urgently needed for Canada's grain crop, and condition of the grain continues to deteriorate, according to a July 3 report of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Wide areas of Saskatchewan and Manitoba are most affected by the drought, but surface moisture is needed in most districts of the Prairie Provinces.

Recent rain brought some relief to crops in Manitoba and maintained fair-to-good prospects in Alberta. At latest report, however, rain was badly needed in southern and central Saskatchewan.

#### BOLIVIA REMOVES EXPORT BAN ON VICUNA HAIR

On June 17, Bolivia removed its temporary ban on exports of vicuna, alpaca, and llama hair. Exports had been banned on April 21, 1958, to give Bolivian authorities time to study the effect of rapid U.S. price increases of vicuna on duty collections. Shipments were reportedly being undervalued by local exporters.

Export duty assessments on all vicuna hair will be based on the following prices: Washed and sorted--\$22.00 per pound; Not washed or sorted--\$11.00 per pound; Low grade--\$5.00 per pound.

In 1957, Bolivia exported about \$300,000 worth of vicuna. Exports of alpaca and llama hair are negligible.

#### THAILAND EXPORTS LESS RICE

Rice exports from Thailand in January-May were 1,301 million pounds, compared with 1,574 million pounds in the same months of 1957--a decline of 17 percent. However, with the exception of 1957, exports of the 5-month period in 1958 were the largest for any comparable period since 1950.

There were sharp declines in exports to Japan, Ceylon, Korea, and the Persian Gulf area. Exports to Japan were only 35 million pounds, compared with 204 million pounds in the same period of 1957. In May, however, Japan began to take imports under a 100-million-pound contract with Thailand (government-to-government).

January-May shipments to Singapore, Indonesia, and Mauritius increased moderately. Exports to the British West Indies came to 75 million pounds. No rice was shipped to the West Indies in the first 5 months of 1957, and very little in other postwar years.



The Thai rice trade expects strong foreign demand for rice through 1958. Timely rains for planting of the 1958-59 crop should encourage farmers to market the rest of their 1957-58 crop and enable them to export some of the new crop before the end of the year. Exports of at least 1.2 million metric tons (2,650 million pounds) during 1958 are likely.

RICE, MILLED: Thailand, exports by country of destination,  
January-May 1958, with comparisons

Country of destination	Average 1951-55	1955	1956	1957 <sup>1/</sup>	January-May <sup>1/</sup>	
					1957	1958
	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds
Asia:						
Arabian States .....	16	13	65	250	109	48
Other West Asia .....	8	3	4	14	12	1
British Borneo .....	66	91	103	145	51	48
Ceylon .....	16	27	<sup>2/</sup>	98	84	<sup>2/</sup>
China .....	5	0	0	0	0	0
Hong Kong .....	380	419	412	422	183	176
India .....	176	3	13	0	0	0
Indochina .....	9	36	16	0	0	0
Indonesia .....	251	146	367	393	221	247
Japan .....	832	831	318	257	204	35
Korea .....	66	0	0	92	47	0
Malaya .....	286	353	379	369	145	143
Singapore .....	607	572	672	610	249	272
New Guinea .....	12	15	19	16	8	6
Pakistan .....	<sup>2/</sup>	0	62	139	6	0
Philippine Republic...	92	125	69	206	30	33
Ryukyu Islands .....	<sup>2/</sup>	<sup>2/</sup>	<sup>2/</sup>	64	21	31
Europe:						
Belgium .....	19	11	0	7	1	4
Netherlands .....	120	137	125	120	80	60
United Kingdom .....	18	21	44	54	28	27
Other Europe .....	10	20	49	27	17	27
French West Africa ...	14	26	6	21	19	11
Mauritius .....	9	4	2	5	1	20
Other Africa .....	17	13	69	69	43	28
Other countries .....	13	15	11	76	15	<sup>4/</sup> 84
Total .....	3,042	2,881	2,805	3,454	1,574	1,301

<sup>1/</sup> Preliminary. <sup>2/</sup> Less than 500,000 pounds. <sup>3/</sup> Included with Japan.  
<sup>4/</sup> Includes 75 million pounds to British West Indies.

Compiled from official sources.

# ARGENTINA RAISES OILSEED PRICES TO PRODUCERS

The Argentine Government announced on June 16 revised, higher minimum prices to growers for 1958-59 crops. The new support prices for 1958-59 oilseed crops, earlier official prices announced in April, and prices for 1957-58 crops are as follows (basis dockside, Buenos Aires):

Item	1957-58	1958-59	
		Previous price	New price
	<u>Pesos per quintal</u>	<u>price</u>	<u>price</u>
Flaxseed.....	165	185	200
Sunflower seed.....	135	160	180
Peanuts (shelled) .....	190	200	220

The current official rate of exchange is 18 pesos to U.S. \$1.00.

Argentina is expected to promote flaxseed production at the expense of wheat, owing to international wheat-marketing difficulties.

## U.S.S.R. MARGARINE PRODUCTION MORE THAN DOUBLE THAT OF 1951

Margarine production in the U.S.S.R. in 1957 reached an estimated 500,000 short tons, nearly 4 times that of 1940 and more than double the volume of both 1950 and 1951. In 1946, the war-ravaged margarine industry hit a low production level of only 42,000 short tons, but since then output has increased steadily.

Production of table margarine in 1957 was more than 4 times that of 1950. Production of cooking margarine, however, while about double that of 1940, was only one-fourth over the 1950 level. Development of the margarine industry has closely followed the increased production of edible vegetable oil.

Production of table margarine in 1957 was twice the volume of cooking margarine. Margarine made with animal fats and that made with vegetable oils have accounted for most of the increased table margarine output, while margarine made with vegetable oils and a "combination" margarine have largely accounted for the increase in cooking margarine.

A steady increase in the percentage of "best quality" margarine of all types has been an important trend. Also, the industry has been increasing its output of mayonnaise since 1940.

MARGARINE: U.S.S.R., production by type and quality,  
selected years, 1940-57

Type	1940	1946	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957 <sup>1/</sup>
	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
	short	short	short	short	short	short	short	short	short	short	short	short
	tons	tons	tons	tons	tons	tons	tons	tons	tons	tons	tons	tons
Table margarine												
Vegetable w.o. milk	42.7	5.9	39.5	36.1	40.8	73.9	94.4	129.0	116.9	117.5	147.8	145.5
Animal	.1	6.6	43.1	27.0	34.5	37.1	43.2	56.8	95.9	142.1	156.3	176.4
Cream	.2	---	1.6	2.6	4.6	5.8	7.9	8.8	12.1	12.3	14.5	14.3
Total	43.0	12.5	84.2	65.7	79.9	116.8	145.5	194.6	224.9	271.9	318.6	336.2
Cooking margarine												
Vegetable	2.5	3.4	11.7	32.0	40.0	39.0	54.6	60.7	71.7	44.3	26.8	26.0
Combination	44.9	7.2	25.2	42.4	61.0	54.7	66.5	81.1	94.2	88.5	102.4	108.5
With water	13.2	12.5	16.0	19.2	20.8	19.4	22.0	20.7	25.0	22.1	21.8	22.0
Other	26.5	6.7	1.9	5.3	9.9	10.4	11.2	15.5	16.3	13.0	11.0	8.8
Total	87.1	29.8	54.8	98.9	131.7	123.5	154.3	178.0	207.2	167.9	162.0	165.3
Total all types	130.1	42.3	139.0	164.6	211.6	240.3	299.8	372.6	432.1	439.8	480.6	501.5
Best quality margarine	49.6	2.4	---	---	161.9	194.9	257.4	308.1	351.7	362.9	421.0	441.0
Percentage of general	(38.1)	(5.7)	---	---	(76.4)	(80.9)	(82.3)	(82.6)	(81.4)	(82.5)	(87.5)	(87.9)
quality	.3	.6	---	---	.2	.7	.8	1.3	1.9	2.3	4.4	6.6
Mayonnaise												

<sup>1/</sup> Forecast as of latter half of year 1957.

Source: Masloboino Zhirovaya Promyshlennost (Oil and Fat Industry) - No. 10, Moscow 1957.



#### INDIA REMOVES EXPORT DUTY ON PEANUT AND CASTOR OILS

India's removal of the export duty on peanut oil and castor oil, effective June 30, 1958, is expected to improve the competitive position of these oils. Exporters will be able to lower price quotations 1 to 1½ cents per pound.

The duty on peanut oil had been 150 rupees per long ton (1.4 cents per pound) since August 11, 1955. However, because of high domestic prices, peanut oil exports were banned from November 21, 1956, until June 3, 1958, when the government announced an export quota of 20,000 long tons of peanut oil (see Foreign Crops and Markets, June 16, 1958).

The duty on castor oil had been reduced from 175 to 100 rupees per long ton (1.6 to 0.9 cents per pound) on April 8, 1958 (see Foreign Crops and Markets, April 28).

#### MEXICO'S VEGETABLE OIL OUTPUT DOWN IN 1958

Mexico's output of vegetable oils is forecast at around 233,000 short tons in 1958. This is a decline of 8 percent from 1957 but slightly above the outturn in 1956.

This year's decline in vegetable oils is expected to be offset somewhat by an increase in lard and tallow production. Thus, total fats and oils output in 1958 will probably be around 325,000 tons,--about 5 percent below that of 1957.

#### U.K. RAISES IMPORT DUTIES ON SALTED AND PICKLED PORK

U.K. imports of salted and pickled pork from outside the Commonwealth are now subject to 10 percent ad valorem import duties under a new treasury order. These items have been on the list of goods exempt from the general ad valorem duty of 10 percent imposed under the Import Duties Act of 1932. Imports of salted and pickled pork from Commonwealth countries will continue to receive preferential treatment.

The rise in U.K. duties will have no direct effect on U.S. exports. The United Kingdom does not permit imports of these products from the United States due to a dollar shortage and a desire to continue imports from its usual suppliers. However, the tariff increase will support prices for domestic production and handicap foreign suppliers, who may have to find new markets for part of their production.

Increased competition for U.S. hog producers could result from increased exports of pork to the United States or to some of the countries which import from the United States.



U.S.S.R. ENCOURAGES  
MEAT PRODUCTION

Livestock producers will be paid higher prices under a recent Soviet Government decree. The price increases are in line with the government's campaign to boost meat production and bring consumption to U. S. levels.

Average prices in the U.S.S.R. have been published for the first time, and local prices are to be determined. Prices of beef cattle and improved (bacon) hogs appear to have been raised the most, while the price of fat hogs does not seem to have been substantially increased.

The U.S.S.R. recently simplified its system of compulsory deliveries of all farm produce by collective farms, and is adjusting prices on a regional basis.

EAST GERMAN CATTLE NUMBERS  
STILL DECLINING

East German cattle numbers on March 3, 1958, showed a slight decline from a year earlier. The East German regime has taken several steps to halt the steady downtrend of the past few years, so far without effect (see Foreign Crops and Markets, March 10, 1958).

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